

MAXWELL'S EQUATIONS

Name or Description	SI	Gaussian
Faraday's law	$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$	$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$
Ampere's law	$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{J}$	$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} + \frac{4\pi}{c} \mathbf{J}$
Poisson equation	$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$	$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = 4\pi\rho$
[Absence of magnetic monopoles]	$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$	$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$
Lorentz force on charge q	$q(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$	$q\left(\mathbf{E} + \frac{1}{c} \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}\right)$
Constitutive relations	$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon \mathbf{E}$ $\mathbf{B} = \mu \mathbf{H}$	$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon \mathbf{E}$ $\mathbf{B} = \mu \mathbf{H}$

In a plasma, $\mu \approx \mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ H m}^{-1}$ (Gaussian units: $\mu \approx 1$). The permittivity satisfies $\epsilon \approx \epsilon_0 = 8.8542 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$ (Gaussian: $\epsilon \approx 1$) provided that all charge is regarded as free. Using the drift approximation $\mathbf{v}_\perp = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}/B^2$ to calculate polarization charge density gives rise to a dielectric constant $K \equiv \epsilon/\epsilon_0 = 1 + 36\pi \times 10^9 \rho/B^2$ (SI) $= 1 + 4\pi\rho c^2/B^2$ (Gaussian), where ρ is the mass density.

The electromagnetic energy in volume V is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 W &= \frac{1}{2} \int_V dV (\mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}) & (\text{SI}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{8\pi} \int_V dV (\mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}) & (\text{Gaussian}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Poynting's theorem is

$$\frac{\partial W}{\partial t} + \int_S \mathbf{N} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = - \int_V dV \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{E},$$

where S is the closed surface bounding V and the Poynting vector (energy flux across S) is given by $\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}$ (SI) or $\mathbf{N} = c\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}/4\pi$ (Gaussian).